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They would all be scared away. But they were not. They still marched up and fought.

Ever since smokeless powder was invented, the same prophecy of the speedy end of war, on the same grounds, has again and again been made. But there are more men in the armies to-day than ever before, and they are ready to march to death in face of the long-range rifles and the monster cannon as readily as men went to meet their foes who were armed only with bows and spears. Nearly fifty years ago a distinguished Frenchman, speaking à la *Chronicle*, declared bravely that war was about to die from an "indigestion of cannon." But war has continued to swallow cannon ever since with ever-increasing rapidity, and there is no evidence that the heavy diet has yet produced any "heart-burn."

The *Chronicle* will have to try again. History is all against it. The decline of war has been produced by the growth and development of the new humanitarian thoughts and feelings increasingly prevailing in our modern society, of which the peace societies and congresses, if not the producers, have been among the foremost spokesmen; not by the fear of death inspired by the new instruments of destruction. When men are trained to war and the war-spirit is on them, considerations of death have no weight with them, as every great modern conflict proves. They will march to destruction against the new weapons as against the old. They devise, to be sure, new methods of fighting and new ways of protecting themselves against the new engines, but they do not run away from fear.

The increasing destructiveness of the arms and engines of modern warfare is hastening the cause of peace, we do not deny. But it is in an entirely different way from that indicated by the *Chronicle*. This increasing destructiveness renders manifest in more striking ways the essential inhumanity and irrationality of war, and this is making peoples and responsible statesmen alike in civilized countries increasingly anxious to get rid of the whole horrible and barbarous business. But it is, even here, the new humane sentiments of the peoples and rulers that constitute the real motive. They are more and more unwilling to see men uselessly slaughtered *en masse* on the battlefield, however ready the latter may be to face swift, wholesale death in obedience to false ideas of patriotism and of duty. They see now at last the reasonableness and desirableness of the means and methods so long advocated by the friends of peace — means and methods which, after a century of successful testing in numerous instances of settlement, have proved themselves worthy of universal application.

Under these circumstances, therefore, when the heads of state and responsible statesmen are rapidly adopting the principles of the peace societies, these

societies will be pardoned by the *Chronicle* if they do not accept its advice, and abandon the field to the big cannon and the long-range rifles.

## Editorial Notes.

The Committee of twelve, appointed at the conference of representatives of the peace societies held in Washington, January 13, to have charge of the organization of the coming Peace Congress, met in New York, at the rooms of the National Arts Club, on February 13th. Eight of the twelve members were present, namely, Walter S. Logan, Hon. George F. Seward, Judge William N. Ashman, Edwin D. Mead, Mrs. Charles Russell Lowell, Mrs. May Wright Sewall, Mrs. Thomas representing Dr. Richard H. Thomas, and Benjamin F. Trueblood. The absent members were Edwin Burritt Smith and Graham Taylor of Chicago, Philip C. Garrett of Philadelphia, and Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey of Winthrop Centre, Maine. The Committee organized by appointing Edwin D. Mead chairman, and Benjamin F. Trueblood secretary. After an extended discussion of the matter of the time and place of holding the Congress, it was unanimously voted that it be held in Boston the first week in October. It was also unanimously voted that Hon. Robert Treat Paine of Boston be recommended for president of the Congress, and that Hon. Andrew D. White, Hon. George F. Edmunds, Andrew Carnegie, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, President David Starr Jordan, Edwin Ginn and Albert K. Smiley, be chosen as vice-presidents. It was also voted unanimously that Mr. Cleveland H. Dodge and Miss Grace H. Dodge of New York and Hon. Oscar S. Straus be made members of the General Committee of the Congress. The details of the program of the Congress and the other preparations were put into the hands of the chairman and secretary, who shall report from time to time to the General Executive Committee. It was decided by the Committee that, in addition to the meetings of the Congress proper, supplementary meetings should be held in New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis, and other cities as the funds raised will warrant, provided sufficient local interest can be awakened to justify such meetings. It is proposed by the Committee to raise a large fund for the expenses of the Congress and these other meetings so as to make the occasion as widely influential as possible. Six thousand dollars has already been pledged. It is hoped that in this way the Congress may be made the largest and most influential ever held. The Committee will have the coöperation of the Peace Bureau at Berne in preparing for the Congress.

Baroness Von Suttner  
to Pres. Roosevelt.

The Baroness von Suttner, president of the Austrian Peace Society and vice-president of the International Peace Bureau, addressed the following telegram to President Roosevelt on the 8th of February, on the rupture of relations between Japan and Russia:

"The rupture of diplomatic relations between Japan and Russia would lead inevitably to war if something new had not come into the world, which is set forth in the text of the Hague Convention (Preamble; Mediation, Arts. 2, 3, 8 and 27), and is fully applicable to the present situation.

"There is little hope that the European powers will offer to mediate in the way here provided,—perhaps they cannot do so,—while the modern power, the United States, seems in every respect called to play this role. It is naturally to you, Mr. President, because of your energetic action for the realization of the Hague Conventions, that at the present moment turn the anxious though confident hopes of the civilized world, which sees the era of international justice dawning. If I venture to appeal to your lofty wisdom and to pray you, at this hour so full of perils, to stretch out over the peoples your beneficent hand, it is not alone in my character as vice-president of the International Peace Bureau that I do it, but as the interpreter, I believe, of millions of human beings who would, at the present moment especially, consider as a triumph of civilization the victory of the new ideas (which have often already found in you, Mr. President, an energetic champion) over the *ultima ratio* which has dominated the world till the present time."

It is understood that President Roosevelt offered to act as mediator between the two powers, according to the provisions of the Hague Convention, if it would be acceptable to them.

One Thousand  
Million Dollars.

Edward Atkinson of Boston has prepared a new edition of his pamphlet, "The Cost of War and Warfare," in which he shows that the United States will have spent on its Spanish-Philippine war, in the seven years from June 30, 1898, to June 30, 1905, the enormous sum of one thousand million dollars. His estimates are not drawn at random, but based upon the official reports of the government. For the twenty years from June 30, 1878, to June 30, 1898, the average annual expenditures of the government on the different branches of the service,—civil, Indian, postal deficiency, war department, navy department, interest and pensions,—amounted to \$5.00 per capita of the population. The expenditures in five years, between 1898 and 1903, were \$6.61 per capita. Those for the current year, which will end June 30, are \$6.35 per capita. But this does not give the whole case. But for the cost of the Spanish war in increased pensions, the cost of pensions would have fallen from \$2.52 per capita to \$1.88 at the present time, because of the death of pensioners. Mr. Atkinson says that these differences

per capita in the annual expenditures seem small, but when computed on the basis of the entire population of the country, the only proper basis of calculation, the aggregate becomes very large. So that in the last fiscal year the excess over 1897-98 was about \$152,000,000, and for the seven years to June, 1905, no less than \$1,000,000,000, a sum larger than the entire bonded debt of the United States, bearing interest, now outstanding. With this money, wasted in "criminal aggression," the entire debt might have been more than paid. Mr. Atkinson asks—and the nation would show great wisdom in heeding the question: "When the cost of our national government is again reduced to the average of twenty years before the Spanish war—of \$5.00 per head, less at least \$1.00 per head, or to \$4.00, for falling in of pensions and interest, as it soon may be when the waste of militarism is stopped—what nation can compete with us in the productive pursuits of peace or in the expansion of our commerce with the world?"

French Doctors  
on War.

A stirring debate took place the other day at the French Academy of Medicine. The subject was the advisability of preaching peace. Dr. Charles Richet, professor of physiology in the medical faculty, took the ground that war is ruinous and degrading from the physiological point of view, as from others. He stated that fifteen millions of men had been killed in wars during the century just closed, that an incalculable amount of money had been spent for war, that an immense amount had been left unearned because the men in the armies and killed in the wars had been taken away from productive industries. It would take Europe, he declared, the whole of the twentieth century to recover from the strain on its vitality which the nineteenth had occasioned. The ablest-bodied men had been killed off in the wars, and the physical vitality of the nations could not be restored in less than a hundred years. The majority of the members of the Medical Academy, however, opposed this view. If there were no war, they insisted, vice and misery and disease would fill the boulevards, and the world would be so crowded that people would have to walk on each other's heads. Peace enervated peoples, while war developed strength and courage. This idea that war is needed to kill off surplus population, that it is a sort of moral clearing house, that it elevates the character and strengthens the moral fiber of peoples, is a very old one, but it is most discouraging to find it seriously maintained by such a body of learned men as the French Academy of Medicine. If these erudite doctors had only studied the actual anatomy and physiology of war, its uncleanness and pollutions, both moral and physical, as they have dissected and examined the human body, we should hear

no more from them of these long-ago-exploded superstitions about the purifying and cleansing qualities of war. The notion that war is required to kill off surplus population is too cheap and absurd to need refutation.

**The Burritt Memorial.**

The movement is now fairly under way for the erection of a worthy memorial to Elihu Burritt in New Britain, Conn., his native town. A public meeting for the inauguration of the undertaking was held in the Lyceum, New Britain, on the evening of February 23. The international character of the meeting — Burritt was one of the most international men that the country has ever produced — was indicated by the flags of many nations which adorned the hall. Mr. John B. Talcott presided, and among those present and participating in the exercises were Mayor Bassett, Judge John Walsh, Mr. F. L. Hungerford, and Professor D. N. Camp. The principal speaker was Edwin D. Mead of Boston, who made a fine address, in which he portrayed the great ability of Mr. Burritt, the loftiness and disinterestedness of his character, his invaluable and indefatigable pioneer labors in the cause of peace and other international interests, and his devotion to all humanitarian enterprises. Mr. Mead incidentally set forth some of the conspicuous services rendered by the United States to the cause of international peace, made a strong plea for an Anglo-American arbitration treaty, and an earnest protest against the militarization of this country. He felt that we had altogether too much honored military heroes, and that it was high time for us to bestow the proper honor on our great heroes of peace. Short speeches were also made by Professor Camp, Judge Walsh, and Mr. Hungerford, and letters of approval of the enterprise were read from Professor Perrin of Yale, Rev. J. H. Twitchell of Hartford, and Rev. John Dennison, formerly pastor of the First Church of New Britain. The meeting authorized the appointment of a committee of five to select a permanent committee of fifty to have charge of the movement to erect a fitting memorial to Elihu Burritt.

**The Stated Congress.**

At a recent meeting of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations a sub-committee was appointed to consider all petitions and resolutions which are before the Senate pertaining to international arbitration. This committee consists of Senators William P. Frye, president of the Senate, Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana and John T. Morgan of Alabama. To this sub-committee has also been referred the resolution of the Massachusetts Legislature which asks Congress to authorize the President to invite the nations to join in establishing a regular international advisory congress. It is reported from Washington that the committee is likely not to be unfavorable to the proposition. The House Committee on Foreign Relations recently gave the entire hour of its regular weekly meeting to a hearing on this subject.

## General American Committee of the Thirteenth International Peace Congress.

The following persons, most of whom joined in the invitation to the Peace Congress to meet in this country this year, have been constituted the General American Committee of the Congress:

Hon. Andrew D. White, Ithaca, N. Y.  
 Hon. George F. Edmunds, Philadelphia.  
 Hon. John W. Foster, Washington.  
 Andrew Carnegie, New York.  
 George Foster Peabody, New York.  
 Albert K. Smiley, Mohonk Lake, N. Y.  
 Hon. William I. Buchanan, Buffalo.  
 Pres. Jacob G. Schurman, Ithaca, N. Y.  
 Pres. Daniel C. Gilman, Washington.  
 George G. Mercer, Philadelphia.  
 Clinton Rogers Woodruff, Philadelphia.  
 Joshua L. Baily, Philadelphia.  
 William Dean Howells, New York.  
 Edwin Burritt Smith, Chicago.  
 Hon. George F. Seward, New York.  
 Rev. Hiram W. Thomas, Chicago.  
 Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, Chicago.  
 Bliss Perry, Boston.  
 Rev. Josiah Strong, Greenwich, Conn.  
 Rev. Philip S. Moxom, Springfield, Mass.  
 Pres. L. Clarke Seelye, Northampton, Mass.  
 Alfred H. Love, Philadelphia.  
 Richard H. Thomas, Baltimore.  
 Thomas Wentworth Higginson, Cambridge.  
 Hon. Samuel W. McCall, Washington.  
 Raymond L. Bridgman, Boston.  
 Edwin D. Mead, Boston.  
 Hon. Robert Treat Paine, Boston.  
 Benjamin F. Trueblood, Boston.  
 Edwin Ginn, Boston.  
 Rev. Edward Everett Hale, Boston.  
 Mrs. May Wright Sewall, Indianapolis.  
 Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey, Winthrop Centre, Me.  
 Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Boston.  
 Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, Melrose, Mass.  
 Mrs. Charles Russell Lowell, New York.  
 Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer, New York.  
 Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead, Boston.  
 Miss Jane Addams, Chicago.  
 Pres. M. Carey Thomas, Bryn Mawr.  
 Bishop William Lawrence, Boston.  
 Bishop Henry W. Warren, Denver.  
 Edward Atkinson, Boston.  
 Samuel B. Capen, Boston.  
 Edward H. Clement, Boston.  
 Philip C. Garrett, Philadelphia.  
 Moorfield Story, Boston.  
 Walter S. Logan, New York.  
 Rev. Charles F. Dole, Boston.  
 Felix Adler, New York.  
 Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, New York.  
 Prof. John B. Clark, New York.  
 Rev. Francis E. Clark, Boston.  
 Hon. George S. Boutwell, Boston.  
 George T. Angell, Boston.  
 Augustine Jones, Providence.  
 L. H. Pillsbury, West Derry, N. H.  
 Judge William L. Putnam, Portland, Me.  
 Herbert Welsh, Philadelphia.  
 Hon. Oscar S. Straus, New York.  
 Judge George Gray, Wilmington, Del.  
 Cleveland H. Dodge, New York.  
 Miss Grace H. Dodge, New York.